

Appl. No.: 10/708,996
Amdt. Dated: 8/4/2005
Reply to Office action of: 05/18/2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A split folding seat assembly for mounting to a vehicle floor comprising a pair of passenger seats which may be independently folded from a seating position to a cargo position and back with a minimum of effort for use in a vehicle comprising in cooperative combination:

a pair of seat cushion frames, each of said seat cushion frames being moveably mounted by their front edges to a pair of legs, and said pair of seat cushion frames rear edges moveably mounted to a corresponding pair of seat back frames by a pair of seat folding links and further each said seat cushion frame having a seat cushion mounted thereon;

two pair of seat legs having one end of each of said two pair of seat legs moveably mounted to the front edge of each of said seat cushion frames and the other end of each of said two pair of seat legs moveably mounted to a vehicle floor;

a pair of seat back frames, each of said seat back frames being moveably mounted on their bottom edges to the rear edge of the corresponding seat cushion frame by a pair of seat folding links, and further attached by their bottom edges by a pair of hinges to a pair of parallel seat tracks, and further each of said pair of seat back frames having a head restraint mounting member to which are attached a desired number of head restraints and each of said seat back frames having a seat back cushion mounted thereon; and

a pair of parallel tracks, fixedly mounted to a vehicle floor, for each of said pair of passenger seats having a seat back frame mounted thereto by means of a hinge allowing the seat backs to be independently moved laterally along the pair of parallel tracks during the folding and unfolding of each of said passenger seats; thereby providing a split folding seat assembly in which the seat cushion is moved forward and downward into the passenger foot area and the seat back is moved forward and downward into the space previously occupied by the seat cushion providing a flat load floor over a cargo area and the seat back.

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Claim 2 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 1 wherein, at least one of said seat back frames has an additional head restraint supportmember.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 1 wherein, at least one storage compartment is mounted below at least one of said pair of seat cushion frames.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 1 wherein, said split folding seat assembly is mounting on a vehicle floor having a configuration allowing said split folding seat assembly when in a folded position to provide a cargo surface contiguous with the vehicle cargo floor.

Claim 5 (currently amended) A split folding and reclining seat assembly for mounting to a vehicle floor comprising a pair of passenger seats which may be independently folded from a seating position to a cargo position and back with a minimum of effort for use in a vehicle comprising in cooperative combination:
a pair of seat cushion frames, each of said seat cushion frames being moveably mounted by their front edges to a pair of legs, and said pair of seat cushion frames rear edges moveably mounted to a corresponding pair of seat back frames by a pair of seat folding links and further each said seat cushion frame having a seat cushion mounted thereon;
two pair of seat legs having one end of each of said two pair of seat legs moveably mounted to the front edge of each of said seat cushion frames and the other end of each of said two pair of seat legs moveably mounted to a vehicle floor;
a pair of seat back frames, each of said seat back frames being moveably mounted on their bottom edges to the rear edge of the corresponding seat cushion frame by a pair of seat folding links, and further attached by their bottom edges by a pair of folding and reclining hinges to a pair of parallel seat tracks, and further each of said pair of seat back frames having a head restraint mounting member to which are attached a desired number of head restraints and each of said seat back frames having a seat back cushion mounted thereon; and
a pair of parallel tracks, fixedly mounted to a vehicle floor, for each of said pair of

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passenger seats having a seat back frame mounted thereto by means of a hinge allowing the seat backs to be independently moved laterally along the pair of parallel tracks during the folding and unfolding of each of said passenger seats; thereby providing a split folding seat assembly in which the seat cushion is moved forward and downward into the passenger foot area and the seat back is moved forward and downward into the space previously occupied by the seat cushion providing a flat load floor over a cargo area and the seat back.

Claim 6 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 5 wherein, at least one of said seat back frames has an additional head restraint support member.

Claim 7 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 5 wherein, at least one storage compartment is mounted below at least one of said pair of seat cushion frames.

Claim 8 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 5 wherein, said split folding seat assembly is mounting on a vehicle floor having a configuration allowing said split folding seat assembly when in a folded position to provide a cargo surface contiguous with the vehicle cargo floor.

Claim 9 (currently amended) A folding seat assembly for mounting to a vehicle floor comprising a passenger seat which may be folded from a seating position to a cargo position and back with a minimum of effort for use in a vehicle comprising in cooperative combination:
a seat cushion frame, said seat cushion frame being moveably mounted by its front edge to a pair of legs, and said seat cushion frame rear edge moveably mounted to a corresponding seat back frame by a seat folding link and further said seat cushion frame having a seat cushion mounted thereon;
a pair of seat legs having one end of each of said seat legs moveably mounted to the front edge of said seat cushion frame and the other end of each of said legs moveably mounted to a vehicle floor,

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a seat back frame, said seat back frame being moveably mounted on its bottom edge to the rear edge of the corresponding seat cushion frame by a u-shaped seat folding link, and further attached by its bottom edge by a pair of hinges to a pair of parallel seat tracks, and further said seat back frame having a head restraint mounting member to which is attached a head restraint and said seat back frame having a seat back cushion mounted thereon; and
a pair of parallel tracks, fixedly mounted to a vehicle floor, for said passenger seat having a seat back frame mounted thereto by means of a hinge allowing the seat back to be independently moved laterally along the pair of parallel tracks during the folding and unfolding of said passenger seat;
thereby providing a folding seat assembly in which the seat cushion is moved forward and downward into the passenger foot area and the seat back is moved forward and downward into the space previously occupied by the seat cushion providing a flat load floor over the seat back.

Claim 10 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 9 wherein, said seat back frame has at least one additional head restraint support member.

Claim 11 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 9 wherein, a storage compartment is mounted below said seat cushion frame.

12 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 9 wherein, said folding seat assembly is mounting on a vehicle floor having a configuration allowing said folding seat assembly when in a folded position to provide a cargo surface level with the vehicle cargo floor.

13 (currently amended) A folding and reclining seat assembly for mounting to a vehicle floor comprising a passenger seat which may be folded from a seating position to a cargo position and back with a minimum of effort for use in a vehicle comprising in cooperative combination:

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a seat cushion frame, said seat cushion frame being moveably mounted by its front edge to a pair of legs, and said seat cushion frame rear edge moveably mounted to a corresponding seat back frame by a seat folding link and further said seat cushion frame having a seat cushion mounted thereon;
a pair of seat legs having one end of each of said seat legs moveably mounted to the front edge of said seat cushion frame and the other end of each of said legs moveably mounted to a vehicle floor;
a seat back frame, said seat back frame being moveably mounted on its bottom edge to the rear edge of the corresponding seat cushion frame by a u-shaped seat folding link, and further attached by its bottom edge by a pair of folding and reclining hinges to a pair of parallel seat tracks, and further said seat back frame having a head restraint mounting member to which is attached a head restraint and said seat back frame having a seat back cushion mounted thereon; and
a pair of parallel tracks, fixedly mounted to a vehicle floor, for said passenger seat having a seat back frame mounted thereto by means of a hinge allowing the seat back to be independently moved laterally along the pair of parallel tracks during the folding and unfolding of said passenger seat;
thereby providing a folding seat assembly in which the seat cushion is moved forward and downward into the passenger foot area and the seat back is moved forward and downward into the space previously occupied by the seat cushion providing a flat load floor over the seat back.

14 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 13 wherein, said seat back frame has at least one additional head restraint support member.

Claim 15 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 13 wherein, a storage compartment is mounted below said seat cushion frame.

Claim 16 (currently amended) The ~~invention~~ split folding seat assembly as claimed in Claim 13 wherein, said folding seat assembly is mounting on a vehicle floor

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having a configuration allowing said folding seat assembly when in a folded position to provide a cargo surface level with the vehicle cargo floor.